

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## Westboro School Department



1927

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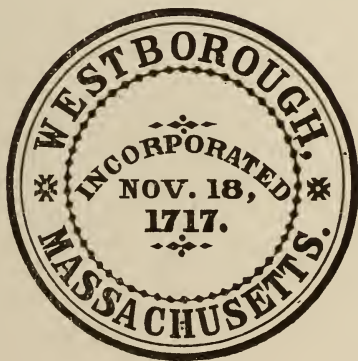
Westborough, Mass.  
CHRONOTYPE PRINTING COMPANY  
1928



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## Westboro School Department



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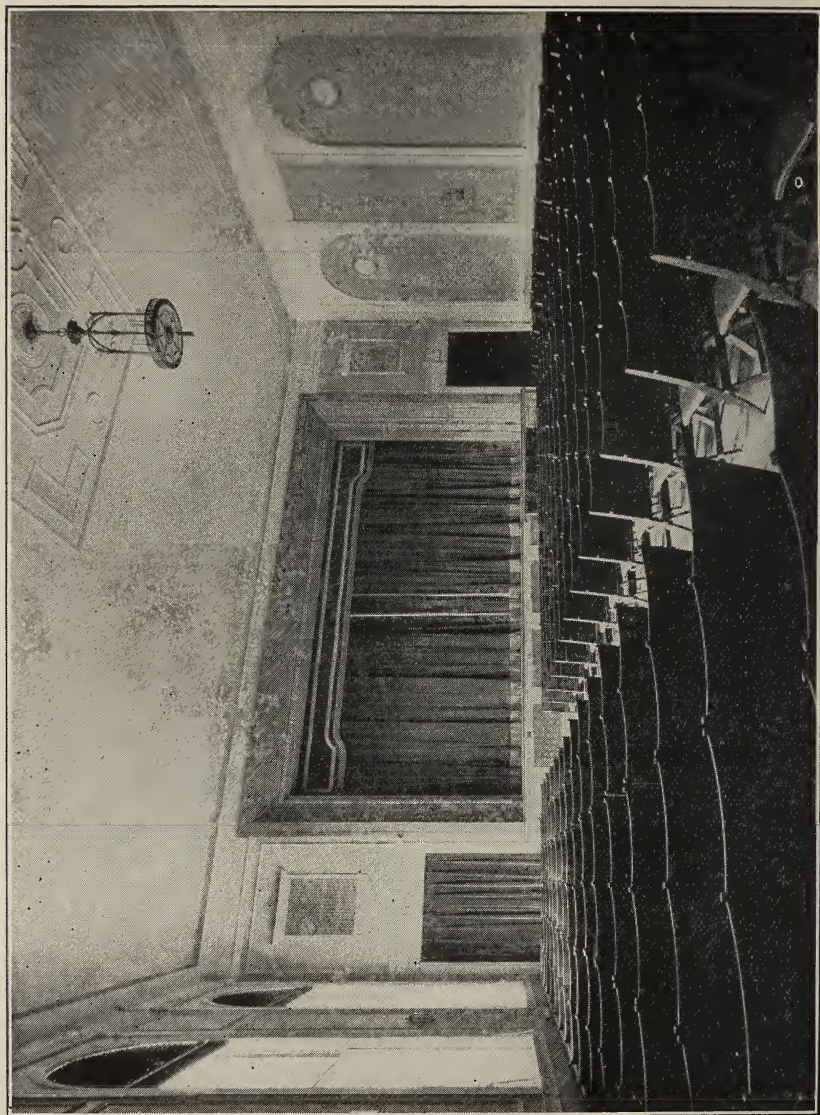
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HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

# Report of School Committee

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Dr. Thomas H. Ayer, Chairman - - - Term expires 1928  
 Andrew J. B. Adams - - - Term expires 1929  
 Dr. Charles H. Reed, Secretary - - - Term expires 1930

Regular meetings of the committee are held the first Wednesday  
 of each month at the High School, at 8.00

## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

J. Harding Armstrong - - - Superintendent  
 Office, High School. Tel. 400

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, 3 to 4 P. M.  
 Residence, 14 Church St. Tel. 446

Dr. Walter F. Mahoney - - - School Physician  
 Residence 41 South St. Tel. 122

Mrs. Violet B. Wynott - - - School Nurse  
 Residence, Milk St. Tel. 198-3

James H. Higgins - Attendance Officer and Census Enumerator  
 Residence, 21 Beach St. Tel. 212-3

## SCHOOL CALENDAR—1928

Winter term, Jan. 3-Feb.17; Spring terms, Feb. 27-April 13,  
 April 23-June 22; Fall term, Sept. 5-Dec. 21

School Holidays—New Year's Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day,  
 Columbus Day, Thanksgiving Day and the following Friday

## No School Signal

Two long and two short whistles of the Westboro fire alarm  
 given twice. The signal when sounded at 7.30, indicates no morn-  
 ing or afternoon session for all schools; at 8 o'clock, no morning  
 or afternoon session for first six grades only; at 11.30, no after-  
 noon session for all schools; and at 11.45, no session for first  
 six grades only,



## TO THE CITIZENS OF WESTBOROUGH:

In behalf of the children enrolled in our schools, your committee will take this opportunity to thank each and every citizen of the town for their generous and substantial support in the interests of their mental, moral and physical education.

Through your generosity, by donation and appropriation, your schools are offering advantages which fit the child of Westborough to occupy a position in life hardly conjectured a generation ago.

Your committee has set a high standard that your children may be properly equipped to compete in the world's work with those of a like community.

Our schools of the past ably met the conditions of that period, but the present demands of art, science, labor and industry are now elevated to a much higher plane, and now the output of our schools must meet those conditions.

The world war has taught that the child who lacked a good mental, moral and physical education was relegated to the scrap-heap, and that the boy or girl who attempts to enter a business or professional life must be prepared.

The high school diploma is now, almost universally, demanded as an entrance fee to nearly every walk in life.

Your committee has and is making a close study of expenditures and it knows that it is obtaining results commensurate with the annual outlay.

Your committee tries to keep in contact with every individual child under its charge. It knows the value of certain training for the child, varying it to fit the normal or abnormal, the retarded or the precocious, and it proposes to give to each and every child a training that will be a credit to the town of Westborough, rather than a burden on society.

Following is a summary and the report of the superintendent of the schools,



## FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR 1927

Appropriation for 1927.....	\$60,563 60
From the Reserve Fund.....	1,000 00
Total .....	<u>\$61,563 60</u>

## EXPENDITURES

Expenses of School Committee.....	\$386 92
Supt. of Schools—salary and other ex- penses.....	2,193 24

## Salaries:

Supervisors .....	\$1,500 00
Principals .....	2,200 00
Teachers—High School....	15,140 64
Teachers—Elementary ....	23,032 40
	<u>41,873 04</u>

## Textbooks:

High School.....	\$691 45
Elementary .....	752 00
	<u>1,443 45</u>

## Stationery and Supplies:

High School.....	\$602 78
Elementary .....	858 13
	<u>1,460 91</u>

## Janitors:

High School.....	\$1,425 55
Elementary .....	1,827 17
	<u>3,252 72</u>

## Fuel:

High School.....	\$652 90
Elementary .....	1,738 48
	<u>2,391 38</u>

## Miscellaneous Operating Expenses:

High School.....	\$526 53	
Elementary .....	643 35	
	<hr/>	1,169 88
Repairs:		
High School.....	\$311 23	
Elementary .....	395 44	
	<hr/>	706 67
Library .....	55 10	
Health .....	800 00	
Transportation .....	5,443 00	
Miscellaneous .....	208 44	
New Equipment.....	177 12	
	<hr/>	
Total expenditures.....	\$61,561 87	
Balance, Dec. 31, 1927.....	1 73	
	<hr/>	
	\$61,563 60	\$61,563 60

## TRADE SCHOOL ACCOUNT

Appropriation for 1927.....		\$1,200 00
Expended for tuition.....	\$1,116 86	
Balance, Dec. 31, 1927.....	83 14	
	<hr/>	
	\$1,200 00	\$1,200 00
Reimbursement by the State—\$366.98		
Net cost of Trade School Tuition—\$749.88		

## CREDITS FOR 1927

From State on account of teachers' salaries.....	\$9,185 00
Tuition—State wards.....	1,083 47
Tuition—Massachusetts Training School pupils.....	206 85
Tuition—non-residents .....	165 50
Rental High School Auditorium.....	104 50
Receipts High School lunch.....	192 00
Manual training fees.....	68 56
Miscellaneous—car tickets, fines, etc.....	219 06
	<hr/>
Total .....	\$11,224 94

## EXPENDITURES FOR SALARIES

## Senior and Junior High School Teachers

J. Harding Armstrong.....	\$4,000 00
Ithel Prescott.....	2,100 00
Donald Homans.....	1,600 00
Pearl K. Gibbs.....	1,600 00
Edith C. Wilson.....	1,600 00
Helen Crowe.....	1,600 00
Marion Parker.....	840 00
Ruth Wadleigh.....	\$560 00
Virginia Rankin.....	1,202 00
Alice Gilmore.....	1,300 00
Thomas F. Carr.....	920 00
Catherine Devin.....	1,300 00
Sara Gibbons.....	480 00
Mary M. Morrill.....	660 00
Florence Walker.....	440 00
Harold Fisher.....	2,400 00
Charlotte Chapin.....	780 00
Isabella Bosworth.....	905 00
Margaret Wehinger.....	520 00
Edwina Burgin.....	480 00
Ray Getchell.....	520 00

## Elementary Teachers

Elsie A. Hastings.....	1,300 00
Annie E. Fales.....	1,400 00
Maude Gilmore.....	1,250 00
Margaret Robinson.....	1,200 00
Lena Cummings.....	1,250 00
Celia L. Lawry.....	1,250 00
Mattie L. Fisher.....	1,250 00
Catherine Crowe.....	1,250 00
Dorothy Laraway.....	660 00
Janet B. Finn.....	400 00
Florence K. Black.....	1,500 00
Helena Stanford.....	200 00
Verna Young.....	1,120 00
Mae J. Chapman.....	1,145 00
Ena Custance.....	280 00
Margaret Chandler.....	637 50

## Supervisors

Frances Andrews.....	750 00
Dorothy Marshall.....	750 00

## Substitutes

Nettie Perry.....	158 00
Mrs. Baron Crowell.....	25 00
Florence Walker.....	75 00
Mary Horgan.....	4 00
Ada Armstrong.....	193 00
Mary Chamberlain.....	10 00
Jennie Franz.....	35 00
Irene Welch.....	42 00
Lucile French.....	54 98
Marjorie McKenna.....	3 90
Bernice Garrahan.....	7 41

## Miscellaneous

James H. Higgins.....	1,100 40
Hannah Walton.....	768 00
E. L. Enman.....	1,153 28
Winnie R. Sanborn.....	200 00
Violet Wynott.....	600 00
Dr. Walter Mahoney.....	200 00
Lowell Walker.....	464 00
Robert McPherson.....	839 00
Harry Rogers.....	1,050 00
Charles Rich.....	762 00
Albert N. Billings.....	850 00
Alvah York.....	810 00
Frank Stockwell.....	225 00

Total expenditures for schools..... \$61,561 87

Total receipts of the School Department..... 11,224 94

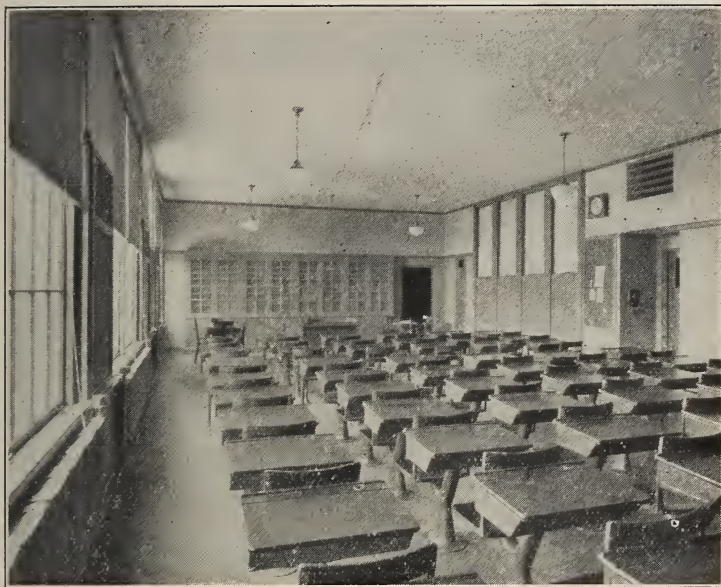
Net cost of the schools to the town..... \$50,336 93

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS H. AYER, Chairman.

ANDREW J. B. ADAMS.

CHARLES H. REED.

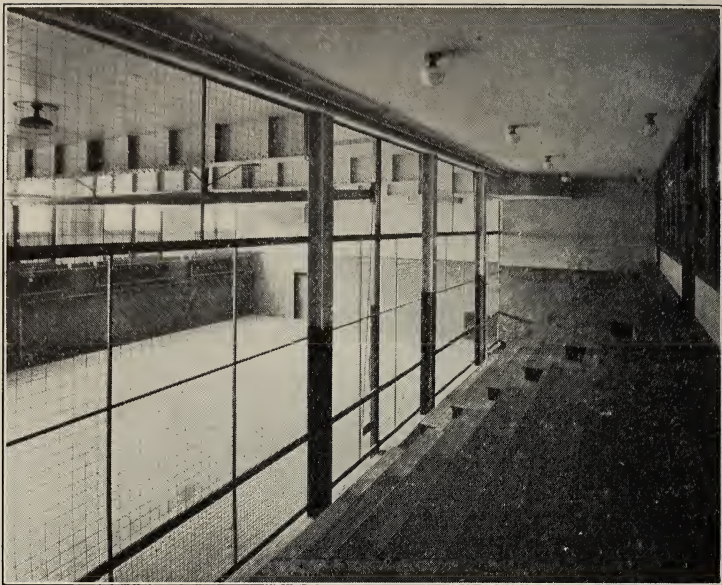


STUDY HALL AND LIBRARY



A CLASSROOM





THE GYMNASIUM



DOMESTIC SCIENCE ROOMS



# Report of Superintendent of Schools

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TO THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF WESTBOROUGH :

This, my fourth annual report, is submitted for your consideration with the hope that the progress here recorded will meet with your approval and that of the citizens at large. This progress has been made possible through the hearty co-operation of all groups responsible for the conduct of our schools and I wish to express my personal appreciation of the assistance which has been so efficiently rendered by all concerned.

The work of a superintendent of schools is so varied and so many demands are made upon his time that it is difficult for him to keep foremost in his mind his more strictly professional duties. Educators throughout the country realizing this situation are putting a new emphasis upon the superintendent's responsibilities as a supervisor of instruction. In a school system the size of ours practically all of this work directly devolves upon the superintendent, as none of the principals have time for supervision.

Believing that the success of our schools is determined more by the type and quality of the instruction given than by any other single factor I have during the past year made a special effort to give the major part of my time to assisting teachers to improve this phase of their work. The completion of the organization of the new high school has lessened the demands of a purely administrative nature and

consequently there has been more opportunity for supervision of instruction.

Class room visitation is the fundamental basis of supervision and this has been carried on regularly, more frequently with the newer teachers. These visits have been followed by frequent personal conferences with individuals or groups of teachers as has seemed best. Teachers' meetings have been held for the consideration of general problems and professional reading and study has been encouraged or suggested.

The response of the teachers to these plans for improving the quality of the instruction has been most encouraging. Suggestions have been received in good spirit and willingly carried out. Early in the year a course was organized for the study of English with an instructor from out of town and many of the teachers enrolled. Several have taken courses during the summer or in the school year and others are doing individual reading and study along educational lines. With the teachers showing such a fine professional spirit the quality of the teaching in our schools is steadily improving.

## REASONS FOR PRIDE IN OUR SCHOOLS

1. A group of well-trained, earnest teachers who have a progressive outlook.
2. A spirit of friendly co-operation existing between pupils and teachers.
3. Good standard of accomplishment in the fundamental subjects as shown by comparative tests.
4. A well organized department of physical education which is training all the pupils in the fundamentals of health and physical activity.
5. A six year program of secondary education which satisfactorily meets the varied needs of the diverse group of pupils attending high school.

6. A high school building surpassed by none and equalled by few of its size in the state.

7. All pupils adequately housed so that there is no serious over-crowding.

8. A high percentage of school attendance. For the year ending June 30, 1926 (the latest figures published) Westborough schools ranked No. 13 in the whole state with an average of 96.49%.

## EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS

No radical changes have been made in any phase of the school program during the past year, but certain adjustments have been carried out which have aided in making the school work more effective.

For some time it has been apparent that the material for the teaching of geography has not been satisfactory. After making a careful study of this situation with the teachers of the intermediate grades it was finally decided to adopt the newly completed state course in geography for grades 3, 4, 5 and 6. Books which were adapted for use with the new outline were purchased for the 4th grades and the course was put into operation in September.

With the teachers of the primary grades there has been a continued study of the reading situation. Several of the more recent systems have been looked over, especially with regard to their emphasis on silent reading. While no change has yet been made in the basal system supplementary books have been added which make available material designed to give training in silent reading.

A request having been received from the elementary school teachers for an increase in salary, a study was made of the local situation in comparison with other towns of similar size and valuation. The result of this investigation showed very clearly that the maximum salary for elementary teachers in Westborough was lower than that of the

majority of other towns and that only a few towns gave as small a yearly increase as is given here. After careful consideration the maximum salary for Grades I to VIII was increased \$50, making that for Grades I to VI \$1,250 and for Grades VII and VIII \$1,300.

This addition to the maximum salary gives financial recognition to those teachers who have been longest in service. The quality of their work, the financial demands made upon them and the salary status in other towns warrant a further increase of \$50 to each of these groups. The present annual increase of \$50 each year given those teachers receiving less than the maximum is not sufficient financial recognition of satisfactory service and should be set at \$75.

Westborough has been fortunate in retaining the services of many capable teachers at a low salary because of their home ties. However, in the long run the quality of the teacher is determined in large measure by the salary paid and these suggested changes will aid in keeping a high standard of ability in the teaching corps.

## THE HIGH SCHOOL

With the closing of school in June the first full year in the new building was completed, its many advantages making possible a year of unusually successful work.

For the first time in its history the Senior High School opened with a registration of 200 pupils, the freshman class numbering 75, the largest that the school has ever had. Of the pupils completing the 8th grade last June only two left school to go to work, indicating that a much larger proportion of the pupils are going on to high school than in the past. Judging from the size of the present 8th grade, the freshman class of next fall will number 85, thus making the school still larger. While these increases can be cared for without crowding the capacity of the new building an increase in the number of classes may be necessary.

The following table indicates the comparative growth of school population during the past five years. It shows that there has been a regular but small increase in the elementary schools, reaching its highest mark last year with a total of 47 or 7.7%. In decided contrast during the same period of time the high school has increased 44 or 28.3%. In other words the proportion of the high school increase is nearly four times that of the elementary schools.

COMPARATIVE INCREASE IN ELEMENTARY AND  
HIGH SCHOOL POPULATION

	Elementary	High	Total
1923	612	155	767
1924	621	172	793
1925	627	179	806
1926	659	172	831
1927	642	199	841
Largest increase	47	44	74
% increase	7.7%	28.3%	9.6%

At the close of the school year four of the high school teachers resigned, three to accept positions elsewhere and one to be married. When planning the program for the fall term it became evident that some new arrangement would be necessary to care for the increase in the high school registration. There was also a very definite demand for a fuller course in mechanical drawing and manual training for the senior high boys and in household arts for senior high girls. Then, too, our experience of the previous year had made it clear that the plan of having the mathematics in the junior high school taught by the manual training teacher was not satisfactory.

After careful consideration of the whole matter it was decided to extend the work in mechanical drawing and manual training and the man employed for this purpose was given two periods of work in the regular senior high program, thus caring for the increase of classes there. An



additional teacher was then employed to take charge of one of the eighth grades and teach mathematics in the junior high school. These changes have made it possible to arrange a satisfactory program in both the junior and senior high schools and to extend the work to meet the needs of the situation.

One of the most difficult problems every high school has to solve is that of failures in the various subjects. Most of these are due either to lack of interest or to failure to properly prepare assigned lessons. Linked with it is the question of home study, which so often is done under unsatisfactory conditions.

In some communities the school day has been lengthened to give time for more study in school and thus reduce the amount of work to be done at home. With this plan the number of failures has been reduced because the work has been prepared under the supervision of a teacher. Some prominent educators go so far as to say that the school day should be long enough to make it possible to have all study done in school.

For several years our school has been using a plan by which each teacher has had at least one afternoon when after the close of the regular session she has given instruction to pupils who have failed or for any other reason wish additional help. After discussing the situation with the faculty it was decided to make a still further attempt to assist those who were not doing passing work. A seventh period has been added to the school day and all pupils who have failed one or more subjects during the preceding month are required to remain for this period and use it for study in the study hall or for special help from the teacher of the subject which has been failed.

This plan seems to be working well and we feel confident that it will result in better preparation of work. We have tried to emphasize that this is an opportunity to make up deficiencies rather than a punishment for failure. The



pupils are increasingly making good use of this period for earnest study and we hope that as a result the number of failures will be definitely reduced.

The student activities of various kinds have been conducted with increased effectiveness the past year. For the first time the Seniors gave their annual play in the new auditorium. The scenery so generously given by Mr. and Mrs. Forbes gave an opportunity for a better presentation than was possible in other years in the town hall. The orchestra, assisted by the Girls' Glee Club, gave an unusually fine concert under the leadership of Mr. Elmer Bennett. His interest in the organization has been a great help and has made possible a better grade of performance. The Oriel, the school paper, has also branched out, adding new features to its issues and has been unusually successful in every way.

During the early winter a debating league was organized by Worcester County high schools and our school entered the competition. Two teams were organized and debates were held with the Peters High School of Southboro. Our negative team debating at home won, but the debate at Southboro was lost by our affirmative team. On points the decision went to Southboro. Later a triangular debate was held with Shrewsbury and Northboro, both of our teams losing. The training secured through debating is of so much practical value to the participants that it is planned to continue this activity.

## HEALTH AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES

The schools of Westborough are giving especial attention to the physical well-being of all its pupils, for we believe that health is such a fundamental element in life that children throughout the whole system need to have definite instruction in its most important phases. Through the lessons in health carried on by the teachers and the nurse the pupils are taught the most important facts relating to

cleanliness, food and rest and in various ways are encouraged to form right habits in these matters.

The doctor and the nurse working together have found the physical defects through the regular examinations and an earnest attempt has been made to have as many of these cared for as possible. The nurse by frequent visits to the homes has been able to give advice to many parents regarding the treatment of these defects and the ordinary children's diseases.

One of the definite objectives of the physical education program is to build up strong bodies so that the pupils will be less susceptible to sickness. These three agencies together giving their attention to the health of our boys and girls are securing results which are most commendable.

Dr. Mahoney writes: "I am pleased to report that a marked improvement in the health of practically all students, especially those who were found defective in 1926, was noticed. This was largely due I believe to the excellent work carried on in the gymnasium. I am pleased with the co-operation of the parents the past year in the matter of teeth and tonsil correction, but there is room for more work along these very important lines. In conclusion I would like to say that the physical health of the Westboro school children is as good as can be found anywhere."

Concerning her work Mrs. Wynott reports as follows: "During the past year much emphasis has been put on the general health of the pupils. The first six grades have been visited every day and the junior high school twice a week. Considerable time has been spent calling at the homes of children who had been absent three days or more, with a particular watch for any contagious disease.

"The Shick test was given to all children whose parents gave their consent and those who had previously had the toxin-antitoxin treatment were again treated, if necessary. The parents of the children of the first three grades were especially urged to have their children immunized and as

a result most of these pupils were given the treatment. Each year this same plan will be followed with the children in the first three grades and thus in a short time the great majority of the school children will be protected from diphtheria.

"In March Miss Mildred Thomas from the Worcester County Extension Service gave her first talk on 'Nutrition and Proper Diet for Growing Children,' with a demonstration of food diet. This was followed by a second one in April.

"Two underweight children were sent to the Sterling Health Camp for three weeks during the summer and were greatly benefited by the camp life. The children who were most under weight were given special instruction regarding the need of proper food and sleep and visits were made to their homes to help improve their physical condition."

#### PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Under the leadership of Mr. Fisher, assisted by Miss Bosworth, the work in physical education was fully organized and developed during the year. It has now passed the experimental stage and is on a substantial basis throughout the whole system. In the spring a public demonstration was held in the gymnasium and the program presented by the boys and girls gave the citizens their first opportunity to see the kind and quality of the work being done. Many favorable comments were made by those who were present.

With the assistance of the boys in the manual training department Mr. Fisher built three pieces of simple gymnastic apparatus which have been set up in a basement room in the Eli Whitney building. During the summer this room was renovated and it is now used as a small gymnasium for the pupils of that school during the part of the year they cannot go out of doors.

In the elementary grades the period for gymnastics has been united with the morning recess. During the fall and

spring, when weather permits, this half hour period is spent in the school yard, the first part being used for formal gymnastics or setting-up exercises and the latter part for organized games under the supervision of the teachers. One day each week the regular recess is used for free play. This general plan enables the formal exercises to be done out of doors instead of in the school room, insures every pupil taking part in active games designed to develop definite skills and does away with the rough, aimless play which characterizes the usual activity of unorganized groups of children.

The control of athletics in the high school is one part of the work of the physical director and the record of the athletic teams during the past year show very conclusively the wisdom of employing a person especially trained to direct these activities. The development of these teams is merely one phase of the whole program of physical education and is secondary to the general purpose of training the pupils to build up strong, healthy bodies. However, competitive games have a rightful place in the life of secondary school pupils and the aim has been to carry them on so that the largest number possible may derive benefit from them.

Although the high school boys had almost no experience with basketball a school team was developed which won 17 games out of 23 and in addition teams were organized within the school which gave many boys and girls an opportunity to learn the game. The school had its most successful football team in many years, losing only one game and winning second place in the Midland League. This success was the result of the untiring efforts of Mr. Fisher, who built new equipment for training the boys, encouraged a large number of candidates to remain out for the team and thoroughly instructed them all in the fundamentals of the game.

He reports as follows concerning the work of the past

year: "From many standpoints the department of physical education has made progress during the past year in making the health and development of the school children something more than a mere theoretical objective. The time is fast approaching when the child's physical education will be given as much recognition as his mental training and they will become more solidly fused into one.

"About fifty persons joined the classes which were organized for adults and the work was carried on very successfully for about fifteen weeks during the winter. The fees paid by the members amounted to a substantial sum, which was paid into the treasury by the committee.

The result of this first year of high school gymnastic work, while possibly not noticeable to the average individual, is very pleasing to the director. A decided betterment in health and especially in strength among the junior and senior high school pupils is one prominent result. Many students have less susceptibility to illness due to the more healthful conditions of the body. The success of the 1927 football team, which made such a fine record, was due in large measure to the training conditions of our physical education program."

Through the activities of this department our boys and girls are not only receiving a training which will be of direct physical benefit to them but also under ideal conditions and trained supervisors are finding the best possible outlet for the energy which young people of high school age possess. Mr. Fisher and his assistants deserve much commendation for the results which they have accomplished during this the first year of a full program of physical education in our schools.

### SUPERVISORS' REPORTS

The following excerpts from the reports of the supervisors indicate some of the more important phases of the work being done in music and drawing.



## MUSIC

“Appreciation is begun in the first grade and is stressed during all the others. Children enjoy listening to each other sing. This develops appreciation for children who are not naturally musical. The Victrola is a great help in this work and it is used at regular intervals throughout the year.

“This year some experimental work has been done in some of the grades with writing short stanzas and setting them to music. This of course calls for the ability to read the stanza rhythmically at first. The next step is to mark it off into phrases. Then the children must decide the kind of time the song is to be written in. Attention is then called to the incompleteness of the song if it is written for instance in seven measures. From this they see for themselves that a song of four, eight or sixteen measures sounds finished, whereas one of three, seven or thirteen would be incomplete. After having been shown these things together with a few rules of music composition, some very creditable tunes have been produced.

“The aim of the music period is that each child may get pleasure as well as profit every day.”

## DRAWING

“In planning the instruction for the public schools the general aims are to develop asthetic appreciation and free expression by means of design and representation. Instead of asking the pupils to produce art they are led to visual sensitiveness with aesthetic discrimination and interest in shapes, lines, forms and colors. They are taught to perceive and appreciate order and beauty.

“The early years are those of invention and it is encouraged to flow freely. Imitation of stereotyped work is discouraged as a stumbling block to learning and vital expression. All this freedom of expression and invention is



developed by means of definite limitations which prevent laxity of performance. Instead of having a class wait at attention watching the instructor make drawings for them to imitate without thought or interest they are taught to create and collect for themselves.

Several exhibitions have been hung during the year in the art corner at the high school for the enjoyment of the pupils and the public. The most noteworthy of these was a group of paintings by well known living artists from which one was selected for the town library.

"Study of the lives and work of old masters as well as of modern artists has been carried on. A little more applied art is being done each year as the development makes it possible. Stencilling and painting on different kinds of material and some metal work have also been tried."

## OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Spelling received more attention than usual in the upper grades during the past year because we participated in the Spelling Bee sponsored by the Worcester Telegram-Gazette. Elimination matches were held in the various classes and the middle of May the final Spelling Bee was held in the auditorium under the direction of Mr. Irwin of the Telegram-Gazette. The contestants were a group of pupils from St. Anthony's Parochial School, Marlboro, and the best spellers from our Junior High School. After a very interesting contest Arthur Simoneau of St. Anthony's School won the match, with Mary Sill of our eight grade runner-up.

At the suggestion of several citizens a group of boys was selected to aid in controlling traffic on West Main street at the close of each session of school. Chief of Police Humphrey gave them the necessary instruction and the plan was inauguared early in the fall. The boys deserve commendation for their work, for through their efforts the crossing of this street has been made much safer, especial-

ly for the younger children from the Eli Whitney and Harvey Schools.

The scholarship given yearly by the Woman's Club was awarded to Helen Merchant, who is now training at St. Vincent's Hospital, Worcester. The income from the fund established by Mrs. Forbes has been loaned to several high school graduates who are continuing their education. The number of applicants for this assistance clearly indicates that it is filling a real need. Both of these financial aids are much appreciated by the young people benefiting by them.

## CONCLUSION

The last two years have witnessed many changes in the organization of our schools, all of which have been made only after very careful consideration from every point of view. We have now reached the stage where our chief task is to develop to a higher degree of efficiency the facilities already provided for education rather than to establish new ones.

This can only be done by carefully studying the results now being obtained, determining how these may be improved and then working out definite plans for the accomplishment of the desired ends. For this work I am sure the same hearty co-operation will be given as has been shown during the period of expansion through which we have been passing.

In conclusion I wish to thank you and all associated in the work of our schools for the assistance which I have received.

Respectfully submitted,

J. HARDING ARMSTRONG,

Supt. of Schools.

# School Statistics

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## MEMBERSHIP BY GRADES FOR MONTH ENDING DEC. 31, 1927

### High School

	Boys	Girls	Total
Seniors .....	13	21	34
Juniors .....	21	20	41
Sophomores .....	21	29	50
Freshmen .....	33	39	72
Post Graduates.....	2	0	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals .....	90	109	199

### ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

	Boys	Girls	Total
Grade VIII.....	44	37	81
Grade VII.....	25	42	67
Grade VI.....	45	31	76
Grade V.....	43	34	77
Grade IV.....	37	55	92
Grade III.....	37	33	70
Grade II.....	43	42	85
Grade I.....	42	40	82
Special Class.....	12	0	12
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals—Elementary Schools...	328	314	642
Totals—All Schools.....	418	423	841

## COMPARATIVE MEMBERSHIP TABLE

December 31, 1922.....	750
December 31, 1923.....	767
December 31, 1924.....	793
December 31, 1925.....	806
December 31, 1926.....	831
December 31, 1927.....	841
Increase over last year.....	10
Increase since 1922.....	91
% increase since 1922.....	12.1

## SCHOOL EXPENDITURES FOR 1927

Salaries for Instruction.....	68. %
Transportation .....	8.9%
Salaries of Janitors.....	5.2%
Supt. of Schools, salary and other expenses.....	4.1%
Textbooks .....	2.4%
Stationery and supplies.....	2.4%
Fuel .....	4. %
Repairs .....	1.2%
Miscellaneous Operating Expenses.....	2. %
Health .....	1.2%
New Equipment.....	.2%
Miscellaneous Expenses.....	.4%

## DISTRIBUTION OF HIGH SCHOOL PUPILS BY COURSES

	1st yr.	2nd yr.	3rd yr.	4th yr.	Total	Percent
College....	17	15	14	14	60	30.0
General...	28	18	19	11	76	38.2
Commercial	29	17	8	9	63	31.8
	—	—	—	—	—	—
	74	50	41	34	199	100

## DISTRIBUTION OF HIGH SCHOOL PUPILS BY SUBJECTS

	1st yr.	2d yr.	3d yr.	4th yr.	P. G.	Total
English .....	71	46	40	34	0	191
Foreign Languages:						
Latin .....	17	15	7	4	0	43
French .....		39	33	24	1	107
Sciences:						
General Science...	43	2				45
Biology .....	2	26		1		29
Physics .....			8	11	1	20
Social Sciences:						
U. S. History.....			9	33		42
Modern History...		2	20	2	1	25
Com. Civics.....	19	1				20
Ancient History...	32	1				33
Mathematics:						
Elem. Algebra....	30		1		1	32
Plane Geometry...		17	8		1	26
Gen. Mathematics..	8	1				9
Rev. Mathematics..				8	2	10
Commercial:						
Commercial Arith.	30	2	1			33
Bookkeeping .....		15	11	1		27
Stenography .....		2	8	9		19
Typewriting .....	1	4	10	14		29
Commercial Geog.	1	25	7			33
Household Arts.....	14					14
Manual Training....	10	2	7			19
Mechanical Drawing	10	2	7			19

AGE AND GRADE TABLE. Age, Oct. 1, 1927; Membership, Dec. 31, 1927

Grade....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
5 years	41												41
6 years	34	30											64
7 years	9	46	21										76
8 years	2	10	28	28									68
9 years	1	2	21	44	19	1							88
10 years		1	2	13	32	23							71
11 years			2	6	15	30	15	3	1				72
12 years				1	9	17	37	27	2				93
13 years					2	5	13	30	30	1			81
14 years				1		1	2	13	29	13			59
15 years							1	7	8	20	16	2	54
16 years								1	1	14	15	14	45
17 years									1	1	6	13	21
18 years											3	3	6
19 years										1	1	2	4
Total	87	89	74	93	77	77	68	81	72	50	41	34	843

Grade.....	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
Normal Age	75	76	49	72	51	53	52	57	59	33	31	27	635
% Normal Age	86.2	85.4	66.2	77.4	66.2	68.8	76.4	70.3	81.9	66	75.6	79.4	75.3
Over Normal Age	12	13	25	21	26	23	16	21	10	16	10	5	198
% Over Normal Age	13.7	14.6	33.8	22.6	33.8	29.9	23.6	26	14	32	24.4	14.7	23.5
Under Normal Age	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	3	1	0	2	10
% Under Normal Age	0	0	0	0	0	1.3	0	3.7	4.1	2	0	5.9	1.2



## School Census

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Number of boys between the ages of 5 and 7 years....	69
Number of girls between the ages of 5 and 7 years....	90
	—— 159
Number of boys between the ages of 7 and 14 years...	286
Number of girls between the ages of 7 and 14 years...	290
	—— 576
Number of boys between the ages of 14 and 16 years..	65
Number of girls between the ages of 14 and 16 years..	78
	—— 143
	——
Total of pupils between ages 5 and 16 years.....	878

### EMPLOYMENT CERTIFICATES

Number of employment certificates issued.....	51
Number of persons to whom issued.....	45
Number of educational certificates issued.....	88
Number of persons to whom issued.....	68

### ATTENDANCE OFFICER'S REPORT

Number of cases of absence investigated.....	46
Number of cases of truancy.....	7

# Graduation Class of 1927

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GRADUATION EXERCISES

CLASS OF 1927

WESTBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL

THURSDAY EVENING, JUNE 16, 1927, AT 8 O'CLOCK

CLASS MOTTO

*"We Will Our Youth Lead on to Higher Fields"*

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## PROGRAM

War March of the Priests ..... *Mendelssohn*

HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRA

Invocation

REV. IRA J. ROBERTS

Salutatory and Essay—"A Plea for Trees"

HELEN CLAIRE MERCHANT

Class Prophecy

ANNA MARY MUTTI

Music    *a* Daybreak.....*G. F. Wilson*  
           *b* Hark! Hark! The Lark.....*Franz Schubert*

GIRLS' GLEE CLUB

Valedictory and Essay—"We Will Our Youth Lead on to  
 Higher Fields"

ELEANOR DOROTHY HUFF

Address to the Graduates

HON. JOHN C. HULL

Speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives

Selections—

*a* Andante from the Surprise Symphony.....*Haydn*  
       *b* Norwegian Dance.....*Grieg*

HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRA

Presentation of Diplomas

DR. THOMAS H. AYER

Chairman of the School Committee

Award of Washington and Franklin Medal

Presentation of Class Gift

JOHN JOSEPH WARD

GRADUATES

Katherine Elinor Braley	Eleanor Dorothy Huff
Kenneth Roy Comey	Earle Nelson Hunter
Albert Carleton Dunn	Ralph Holbrook Johnson
Gladys Pearl Elizabeth Enman	Helen Claire Merchant
Doris Jane Farquhar	Marjorie Estelle Mollard
Stanley Whitman Freeman, Jr.	Anna Mary Mutti
Elton Chester Hanson	John Francis Smith
Corey Abel Heath	Dorothy Margaret Turner
Mary Alma Higgins	John Joseph Ward
Arline Margaret Welsh	

## HONOR STUDENTS

Gladys Pearl Enman	Eleanor Dorothy Huff
Doris Jane Farquhar	Helen Claire Merchant
Elton Chester Hanson	Anna Mary Mutti

## CLASS OFFICERS

JOHN JOSEPH WARD, President
MARY ALMA HIGGINS, Vice President
GLADYS PEARL ENMAN, Secretary
STANLEY WHITMAN FREEMAN, Jr., Treasurer

## HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP HONORS

## FIRST HONOR ROLL, SEPTEMBER 1926 TO JUNE 1927

At least two A's and no other mark below B

SENIORS		SOPHOMORES	
	weeks		weeks
Eleanor Huff	32	Aram Kalenian	32
H. Merchant	32	Marie Sciarro	16
Annie Mutti	24	Ruth Alden	8
Elton Hanson	24	Marguerite Armstrong	16
John Smith	16	Henrietta Decrow	8
Pearl Enman	16	Thomas Higgins	16
Marjorie Mollard	8	Lillian Lukko	16
JUNIORS		FRESHMEN	
	weeks		weeks
Doris Aldrich	16	Doris Burnett	24
Esther Forbes	32	Helen Creamer	16
Doris Harrington	32	Mary Riley	32
Olive Joney	24		
William Libbey	32		

## SECOND HONOR ROLL, SEPTEMBER 1926 TO JUNE 1927

One C Plus and no other mark below B

SENIORS		SOPHOMORES	
	weeks		weeks
Kenneth Comey	24	Marguerite Armstrong	16
Pearl Enman	16	Lillian Lukko	16
Doris Farquhar	32	Hattie Nicholas	32
Elton Hanson	8	Catherine O'Brien	24
Marjorie Mollard	16	Marie Sciarro	16
Annie Mutti	8		
JUNIORS		FRESHMEN	
	weeks		weeks
Willard Ayers	8	Marjorie Beach	24
Donald Burgess	16	Avis Braley	32
Dorothy Chamberlain	32	William Dozois	32
Marion Charlton	24	William Hogan	24
Lois Dean	16	Marion Jones	16
Sarah Ellis	16	Marjorie Parker	16
Edith Woodman	16	Norman Sargent	16
		Mildred Sweet	32
		Edith Washington	32
		Helen Creamer	8
		Clyde Furbish	8
		Ruth Powers	16
		Bertha Rich	8
		Louise Richards	16
		Winfield Wood	16



PERFECT ATTENDANCE—1926-1927

Juniors:

Esther Forbes, Donald Fraser, Francis Gribble,  
William Libbey

Sophomores:

Robert MacPherson, Lois Nichols, Beatrice Teasdale

Freshmen:

Avis Braley, Norman Carter

Grade VIII:

Glenn Howard, Pearl Farquhar, Edith Hitchins, Helen  
MacConnell, Dorothy Dodd, Ethel Vinton, Francis  
Ward

Grade VII:

Vaughn DeWolf, Wendell Gill, Edward Nelpi, Gladys  
Whitney, James Cassinari, Esther Fisher, Donald  
Holbrook, Bernard Kane

Grade VI:

Evelyn Bixby, Margaret Libbey, Gerald MacConnell,  
Wendell Carter, Charles Nicholas, Sophie Poly-  
buska, Bernice Richards, Regina Sciarro

Grade V:

Elmer Lewis, Phyllis Tappan, Gerald Frazier

Grade IV:

Florence Buzzell, Dorothy Nichols, Viola Thompson,  
Richard Buxton, Dorothy Parker

Grade III:

Susan Beardslee, Emeline Bianchi, Raymond McIntyre,  
Robert Harvey, Ella Burhoe

Grade II:

Charles Fay, Ernest Powers

# List of Teachers January 1, 1928

Teacher	Position	Salary	Education	Home Address
Senior-Junior High School:				
J. Harding Armstrong;	Prin. and Supt.;	\$4,000;	Bridgewater Normal School,	Harvard University; West- boro, Mass.
Ithel E. Prescott;	Sub-master;	\$2,100;	Science, General Math.;	University of Maine; Sanford, Me.
Donald E. Homans;	\$1,600;	Science, U. S. History, Civics, French;	Middlebury College;	Ipswich, Mass.
Pearl K. Gibbs;	\$1,600;	French, Latin;	Mt. Holyoke College;	Westboro, Mass.
Edith C. Wilson;	\$1,600;	Commercial Branches, Modern History;	University of Chicago;	Belfast, Me.
Helen L. Crowe;	\$1,600;	Latin, English;	Boston University;	Westboro, Mass.
Ruth Wadleigh;	\$1,400;	English;	University of New Hampshire;	Millford, N. H.
Virginia L. Rankin;	\$1,250;	Math., History;	Mt. Holyoke College;	Portland, Me.
A. Margaret Wehinger;	\$1,300;	Physical Training;	Posse Nisen;	Charlton, Mass.
Edwina Burgin;	\$1,200;	Household Arts;	Framingham Normal;	Springfield, Mass.
Catherine E. Devin;	\$1,300;	English, Jr. High School;	Framingham Normal;	Westboro, Mass.
Florence L. Walker;	\$1,100;	Math., Jr. High School;	Wellesley College;	Westboro, Mass.
Alice C. Gilmore;	\$1,300;	Geography, Jr. High School;	Westboro High School;	Westboro, Mass.
Sara Gibbons;	\$1,200;	History, Jr. High School;	Framingham Normal School;	Westboro, Mass.
Elsie A. Hastings;	Special Class;	\$1,300;	Worcester Normal School;	Westboro, Mass.

## Eli Whitney School:

Annie E. Fales; \$1,400; Grade 6; Worcester Normal; Westboro, Mass.  
 Lena M. Cummings; \$1,250; Grade 6, Framingham Normal School; Westboro, Mass.  
 Maude A. Gilmore; \$1,250; Grade 5; Westboro High School; Westboro, Mass.

Teacher	Position	Salary	Education	Home Address
Margaret Robinson;	Grade 5;	\$1,200;	Normal School, Truro, Nova Scotia;	Melrose, Mass.
Mattie L. Fisher;	Grade 4;	\$1,250;	Framingham Normal School;	Westboro, Mass.
Catherine Crowe;	Grade 4;	\$1,250;	Framingham Normal;	Hopkinton, Mass.
Celia L. Lawry;	Grade 3;	\$1,250;	Framington, Me., Normal School;	Farmington, Me.
Janet B. Finn;	Grade 3;	\$1,000;	Framingham Normal School;	Watertown, Mass.
Harvey School:				
Florence K. Black;	Prin., Grade 1;	\$1,500;	Beverly Training School;	Westboro, Mass.
Verna Young;	Grade 1;	\$1,150;	Bridgewater Normal;	Winthrop, Mass.
Mae J. Chapman;	Grade 2;	\$1,175;	Framingham Normal School;	Westboro, Mass.
Ena Custance;	Grade 2;	\$1,200;	Calgary Normal School;	Lexington, Mass.
Special:				
Harold F. Fisher;	Physical Director;	\$2,400;	Springfield College;	Westboro, Mass.
Frances L. Andrews;	Supervisor Music;	\$750;	Lowell Normal School,	Northampton Conservatory;
Westboro, Mass.				
Dorothy Marshall;	Supervisor Drawing;	\$750;	Providence Art School;	Providence, R. I.
Violet B. Wynnott;	School Nurse;	\$600;	Westboro, Mass.	
Dr. Walter F. Mahoney;	School Physician;	\$200;	Westboro, Mass.	
Janitors:				
James H. Higgins;	\$1,100;	Eli Whitney and Harvey Buildings.		
E. Lee Enman;	\$1,250;	High School Building.		
Hannah Walton;	\$16 per week;	High School Building.		



